

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: June 21, 2006

Division: Emergency Services

Bulk Item: Yes X No

Department: Fire Rescue

Staff Contact Person: Darice Hayes

AGENDA ITEM WORDING: Approval to submit grant application to the Department of Homeland Security for a SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) grant. Use of funds are to add up to 18 additional firefighter EMT and/or firefighter paramedic positions.

ITEM BACKGROUND: The purpose of the SAFER grants is to award grants directly to volunteer, combination, and career fire departments to help the departments increase their cadre of firefighters. Ultimately, the goal is for SAFER grantees to enhance their ability to attain 24-hour staffing and thus assuring their communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards. The SAFER grants have two activities that will help grantees attain this goal: 1) hiring of firefighters and 2) recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters.

The Hiring of Firefighters Activity involves a five-year grant to assist fire departments pay a portion of the salaries of newly hired firefighters. These newly hired positions must be in addition to authorized and funded active firefighter positions. Grantees must do everything in their power to maintain the number of authorized and funded positions as declared at the time of application PLUS the awarded new firefighter positions throughout the period of performance (five years). Grantees that fail to maintain this level of staffing risk losing all or a portion of their grant. Volunteer, combination, and non-profit career fire departments are all eligible to apply for assistance in hiring new firefighters. These grants require the awardee to match an increasing proportion of the salary over a four-year period as follows: first year at 10%; second year at 20%; third year at 50%, and fourth year at 70%. In the fifth year of the grant, the awardee must absorb the entire cost of any positions awarded as a result of the grant.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOCC ACTION: N/A

CONTRACT/AGREEMENT CHANGES: N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Approval.

TOTAL COST: See attached Exhibit A **BUDGETED:** Yes No X

COST TO COUNTY: See attached Exhibit A **SOURCE OF FUNDS:** Ad valorem taxes

REVENUE PRODUCING: Yes No X **AMOUNT PER MONTH** **Year**

APPROVED BY: County Atty N/A OMB/Purchasing N/A Risk Management N/A

DIVISION DIRECTOR APPROVAL:


Clark O. Martin, Jr.

DOCUMENTATION: Included X Not Required

DISPOSITION: **AGENDA ITEM #**

EXHIBIT A**SAFER GRANT PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS**
June 21, 2006 BOCC Meeting

POSITION	FISCAL YEAR	BASE ANNUAL SALARY	BENEFITS LOADING 60.94%	TRUE ANNUAL SALARY*	TOTAL COST FOR 18** POSITIONS PER FISCAL YEAR	COST TO COUNTY PER FISCAL YEAR	FUNDED BY GRANT PER FISCAL YEAR
Firefighter Paramedic	2007	\$37,907.34	\$23,100.73	\$61,008.07	\$1,098,145.31	\$109,814.53	\$988,330.78
Firefighter Paramedic	2008	\$39,044.56	\$23,793.75	\$62,838.31	\$1,131,089.67	\$226,217.93	\$904,871.73
Firefighter Paramedic	2009	\$40,215.90	\$24,507.57	\$64,723.47	\$1,165,022.45	\$682,511.23	\$582,511.23
Firefighter Paramedic	2010	\$41,422.38	\$25,242.80	\$66,665.18	\$1,199,973.21	\$839,981.25	\$359,991.96
Firefighter Paramedic	2011	\$42,665.05	\$26,000.08	\$68,665.13	\$1,235,972.37	\$1,235,972.37	\$0.00

DOLLAR FIGURES ARE BASED ON FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC SALARY***TOTAL COST IS TRUE ANNUAL SALARY FIGURE FOR 18 APPROVED POSITIONS**

<u>FISCAL YEAR 2007</u>
COST TO COUNTY - 10% OF TOTAL COST
PORTION FUNDED BY GRANT - 90% OF TOTAL COST
<u>FISCAL YEAR 2008</u>
COST TO COUNTY - 20% OF TOTAL COST
PORTION FUNDED BY GRANT - 80% OF TOTAL COST
<u>FISCAL YEAR 2009</u>
COST TO COUNTY - 50% OF TOTAL COST
PORTION FUNDED BY GRANT - 50% OF TOTAL COST
<u>FISCAL YEAR 2010</u>
COST TO COUNTY - 70% OF TOTAL COST
PORTION FUNDED BY GRANT - 30% OF TOTAL COST
<u>FISCAL YEAR 2011</u>
COST TO COUNTY - 100% OF TOTAL COST